

THE PARISHES OF ST MARGARET AND
ST MARK DUNHAM MASSEY

Easter 5 Sunday 10th May 2020

Newsletter and Weekly Prayer Sheet

I imagine many of us will have been trying to fill our time to help make the lockdown pass quickly. Activities like camping trips to the garden and family “come dine with me” competition have certainly helped as has the occasional walk in the country for exercise.

I was walking by the churchyard in beautiful sunshine a few days ago and was suddenly struck by the phrase “All things must pass.” That’s true of everything of course, ourselves included, but walking under a huge sky I was also struck by the continuity of the nature of which we are all part – in one changing form or another. While our time here as humans is finite, there’s something that allows us to conceive of our existence that I can only believe is eternal. What that is I have no clear idea - but thinking about it doesn’t half pass the time.

If the choir had been in church recently you would have heard us singing “God so loved the world” A beautiful piece of music. You can hear a nice recording of it [here](#) instead.

Tom Stewart

Readings

John 14,1-14

The Collect

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of
everlasting life;
grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our mind’s good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Please log onto the church website

www.dunhamchurch.com

for our short weekly service.



VE DAY
75TH ANNIVERSARY



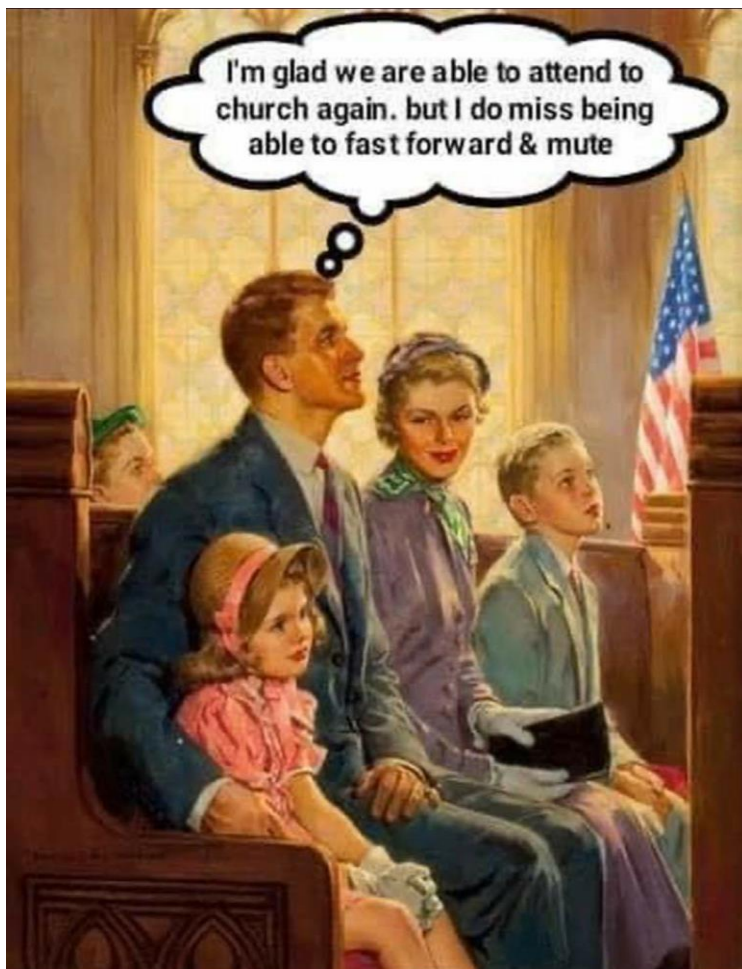
Thoughts for this week....

One of the problems of the present lockdown is finding something useful to do. Wendy and I are fortunate; we have a garden, a good collection of films on DVD, a considerable number of books, and an accumulation of much-loved jig-saws. She has her art, I have my music, and there are a number of D.I.Y. jobs still waiting to be done. But with the very real prospect of the lockdown extending for many months, even if we have gardens, books, DVDs and jig-saws, we'll probably all find that we're running out of resources. So I have a suggestion to make. What about taking a new look at the Old Testament?

It's a mixture of material, some of it revealing profound insights into the nature of God and into the very real problems of being human. Other parts of it, such as the gleeful accounts of genocide or the lists of unpronounceable names are, to say the least, unhelpful and better ignored. Some of the narrative is about as historical as our tales of King Arthur or Robin Hood, but other parts reveal people and events precisely as they were - coping with many of the problems that still beset present-day society. We tend to think of the ancient Greeks as the start of human culture, but some of the finest Old Testament passages date from before the Greeks were even thought of.

What I can offer is a weekly e-mail guide to reading the Old Testament, taking a passage, explaining its meaning and suggesting why I feel it can still be helpful to us despite its ancient origins. If you feel this might be of interest to you, please e-mail me at maxmramsay@gmail.com and I'll send you the first instalment. You can always unsubscribe!

Max Ramsey



A prayer for Peace

*Heavenly Father,
Prince of peace,
inspire all those who will be in a position to
make a difference for world peace,
and grant us the will to live in peace with
all people.*

Amen.

Should you need the help of a Minister
Reverend Keith Hine can be contacted at :-

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Hope to see you soon.